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D. Zinklerman
3-12-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bussick et al.

Appl. No.: 09/687,689

Filed: October 13, 2000

Title: GAMING DEVICE HAVING DUAL EVALUATION SCHEME

Art Unit: 3713

Examiner: S. Jones

Docket No.: 0112300-474

RECEIVED

MAR 12 2002

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 26, 2001, and the interview courteously granted Applicants' representatives on December 4, 2001, please enter this Response in the above-identified patent application.

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A¹ In known non-bonus gaming systems, i.e., in the base game having a plurality of reels, the games evaluate the effect of a wild symbol one time. Thus, if a wildcard creates a new winning combination on a payline of a known slot machine, wherein the payline already contains a winning combination separate and apart from the new winning combination via the wildcard, the known slot machine will pay the separate winning combination once and the new combination once via the wild symbol. That is, in known games, the reels spin, any winning combinations are paid, and the wild symbols produce additional pays. The games, however, do not perform a total re-evaluation and pay all combinations again.

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01 FC:102
02 FC:103

504.00 OP
126.00 OP